

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

AGRE-00 OIC-02 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /139 W

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P R 301331Z SEP 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2650

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 7656

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: GATT, ETRD

SUBJECT: CHAIRMANSHIP OF GATT WP ON EXPORT INFLATION INSURANCE

REF: STATE 227222

1. EC HAS REJECTED BARTHEL-ROSA. THEY THEN ASKED THAT SECRETARIAT PUT FORTH SOME FRENCH-SPEAKING CANDIDATE, SO WP CHAIRMAN COULD LISTEN TO FRENCH AND ITALIAN PRESENTATIONS WITHOUT TRANSLATION. SECRETARIAT THEN NOMINATED GERMAIN DENIS OF CANADA.

2. WE TOLD SECRETARIAT THAT EC IMPOSITION OF LANGUAGE CRITERION WAS ILL-FOUNDED, AS THEY HAD PREVIOUSLY FOUND TAN OF SINGAPORE ENTIRELY ACCEPTABLE. (AS WASHINGTON AWARE, TAN DID NOT PROVE AVAILABLE.)

3. WE FELT UNABLE RECOMMEND DENIS' CANDIDACY TO WASHINGTON, AS IN MISSION OFFICERS' JUDGMENT DENIS' OBJECTIVITY MIGHT BE SUBJECT TO UNDUE STRESS, GIVEN THAT FRANCE, MORE THAN ANY OTHER COUNTRY HAVING INFLATION INSURANCE SCHEME,  
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WILL BE QUOTE ACROSS THE FENCE UNQUOTE FROM U.S. WP

OBJECTIVES.

4. WE MADE IT PLAIN TO SECRETARIAT THAT OUR RELUCTANCE RECOMMEND DENIS TO WASHINGTON FOR THIS WP DID NOT MEAN THAT WE WERE PERMANENTLY BLACKBALLING HIM AS A CANDIDATE FOR OTHER WORKING PARTIES OR PANELS AS THE COMMUNITY HAS APPARENTLY DONE TO SUCH CANDIDATES AS TEESE OF AUSTRALIA.

5. PARTICULARLY, IN VIEW EC'S PRIOR ACCEPTANCE OF ENGLISH-SPEAKING-ONLY TAN, WE TOLD SECRETARIAT WE WOULD NOT RECOGNIZE EC'S LANGUAGE CONSTRAINT. WE ASKED THAT SECRETARIAT PUT FORWARD ANOTHER CANDIDATE QUICKLY. NEW NOMINEE IS ERIK SELMER OF NORWAY, WHOM WE STRONGLY ENDORSE. SELMER IS ON HIS SECOND GENEVA TOUR, HAVING HAD PRIOR EXPERIENCE DURING THE KENNEDY ROUND, AND WE BELIEVE HE WOULD MAKE A STRONG CHAIRMAN. SELMER'S AVAILABILITY, OF COURSE, CANNOT BE EXPLORED UNTIL HE IS APPROVED BY U.S. AND EC.

6. ACTION REQUIRED: WOULD APPRECIATE RESPONSE BY PRIORITY TEL INDICATING WHETHER SELMER IS ACCEPTABLE. IN ADDITION, GIVEN GROUND-FRONT DIFFICULTIES WE NOW ENCOUNTERING FROM EC ON SELECTION CANDIDATES FOR WPS AND PANELS, WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON AUTHORITY FOR MISSION TO GIVE FINAL U.S. APPROVAL ON OTHER CANDIDATES THIS WP, SHOULD SELMER'S CANDIDACY NOT WORK OUT. PLEASE ADVISE. CATTO

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## Message Attributes

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